

translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

PCT/EP2003/014464



Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002P01612WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/014464	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 December 2003 (18.12.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 30 December 2002 (30.12.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC A47L 9/14		
Applicant BSH BOSCH UND SIEMENS HAUSGERÄTE GMBH		

- This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 4 sheets, as follows:
 - ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the report
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 22 July 2004 (22.07.2004)	Date of completion of this report 03 November 2004 (03.11.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/014464

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

☒ The international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages _____ 3-8 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ 1, 2 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 19.10.04
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ 1-11 _____ received by this Authority on _____ 19 October 2004 (19.10.2004)
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

pages _____ 1/2-2/2 _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 03/14464

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document D1 (US-A-4 699 641) is considered the **prior art closest** to the subject matter of claim 1 and discloses a:

vacuum cleaner comprising a housing from which a drawer-like compartment 21 can be withdrawn, said compartment comprising a dust chamber 15 for accommodating a dust separator 55, which can be inserted in to a vacuum flow path between a connecting piece 25 of a suction hose 26 or of a suction tube and a suction opening 17 of a motor/fan unit 16, the motor/fan unit 16 being secured in the housing and it being possible to remove the dust separator 55 from the vacuum flow path by pulling out the draw-like compartment 21 (see figure 4).

The **problem of interest** can be considered that of devising a vacuum cleaner of the above type which is easier to handle.

The **solution** to the problem consists in the fact that the connecting piece for the suction hose or suction tube is secured to the housing and the dust separator can be connected to the connecting piece

via the draw-like compartment.

Consequently, a suction hose or suction tube connected to the connecting piece does not impede movement of the draw-like compartment.

The subject matter of **claim 1** is thus novel (PCT Article 33(2)) and involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

The claimed vacuum cleaner is industrially applicable in the field of household appliances. The requirements of PCT Article 33(4) are therefore satisfied.

Claims 2-11 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY